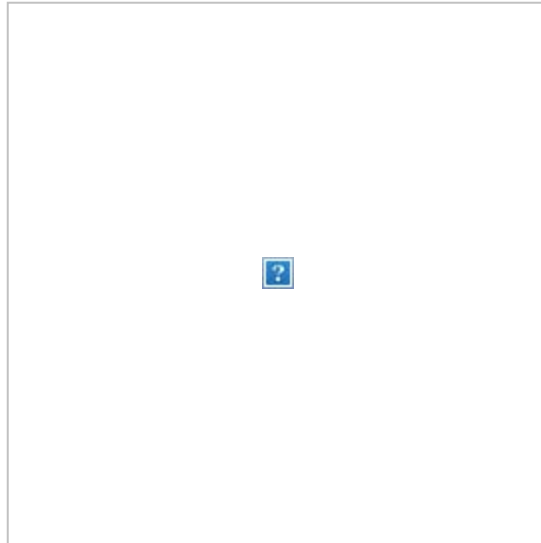


From: [Get Down Town LA](#)
To: [Kent Smith](#)
Subject: downtown, our little nucleus
Date: Wednesday, July 29, 2015 12:09:06 PM

Get Down Town's weekly email digest offers suggested events in Downtown Los Angeles, articles of interest, and a few thoughts from our editorial team. Unsubscribe below or spread the word.

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Get Down Town is an outlet for speaking truthfully about our community, cutting through the misinterpretations, showcasing its art and culture and better telling its complicated and evolving story. More specifically, it is

- an arts & culture happenings guide and creative editorial publication launching in Fall 2015 in print and online.
- a call to come to Downtown Los Angeles and see what it has to offer.
- a means to understand what happens when we collide, what occurs as people congregate at a center, especially in a region culturally known for providing space and separation.
- a playful invitation to *get down* and dance to the rhythm of contemporary happenings and musings.

This *weekly digest* will offer suggested events, articles of interest and a few thoughts that Downtown has us having at the moment. Thanks for joining us for the journey.

happening this week

Tonight 7/29 at 7:15pm, LA Public Library's ALOUD series welcomes award-

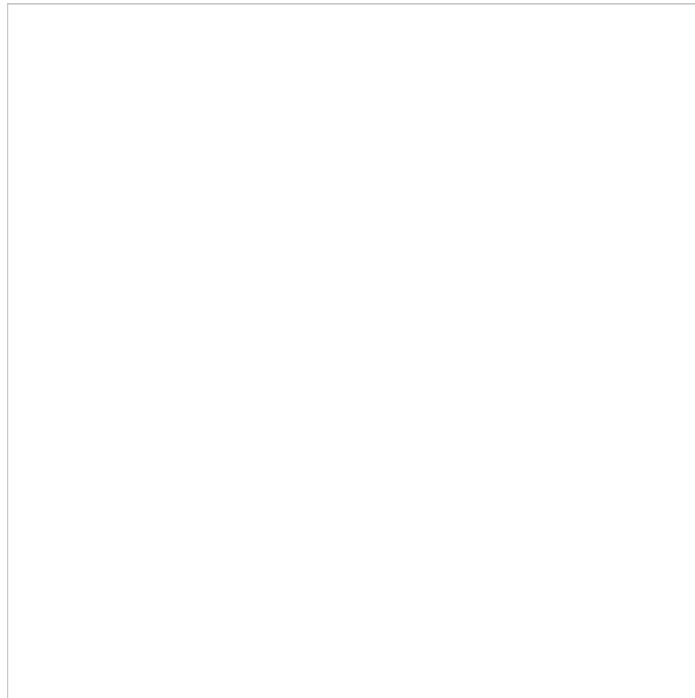
winning composer Laura Karpman as she conducts [an orchestral arrangement of Langston Hughes' text, "Ask Your Mama: 12 Moods for Jazz."](#) Two vocalists, a pianist, and a bassist join her. You can too but there's a waiting list.

Steve Aoki - LA party guy turned superstar DJ turned cultural ambassador who gets the Mayor to help him shut down Downtown streets as he pleases - has a [book signing \(???\) at The Last Bookstore](#) this **Friday night 7/31 6pm** for his new autophotobiography *Eat Sleep Cake Repeat*. Don't expect a DJ set, do expect a very atypical book signing crowd at California's largest used bookstore.

Usually we reserve the Ace Hotel rooftop for swimming or networking, but this **Friday night 7/31**, the talent lined up to spin vinyl is impressive enough to venture upstairs for the music alone. [The weekly event The Times](#) welcomes Nick Waterhouse, Mukta Mohan, and Neil Schield.

MAMA Gallery's early-summer exhibition [To Hide to Show](#) comes to a close this **Saturday 8/1 3-6pm**. By sharing artifacts they hold sacred, the artists make their holdings vulnerable to degradation. Also closing is [Rock on Paper](#), a legendary collection of artist Richard E. Aaron's rock star photography, showing until the end of the week at Fathom Gallery inside the California Market Center.

Broken Fingaz, the self-declared "graffiti gypsies of Haifa," exhibit their posters, murals, album art, and the unexpected at Howard Griffin Gallery for [their first exhibition in the US, Journey Galactiko](#). The show has been extended to 8/22, but why wait? See it **Sunday 8/2 12-7pm** during [Shopwalk DTLA](#) and support local businesses along Spring & Main Streets in the Historic Core.



Broken Fingaz at Howard Griffin Gallery, 410 S Spring St

recommended internet

Now that LA's got a second shot at the U.S. Olympic 2024 bid, let's relook at [one of the best parts of the plan: its lovely logo and graphic identity.](#)

Could Downtown's en-route housing boom keep it from [suffering the unaffordability fate of San Francisco?](#)

Downtown Los Angeles has the highest concentration of dangerous intersections for pedestrians, [according to an in-depth L.A. Times analysis.](#)

Related, our friends Rachel Finfer and Michael Kirk recently created [this alarming heat map of the rate of car accidents involving bicyclists](#) across LA.

Museum director Joanne Heyler is making sure [artworks feel happy in their new home at The Broad](#) before it opens in September.



Courtesy of LA Times

thoughts n feelings

We're sitting at BierBeisl, the Spring Arcade's new casual Austrian eatery, it's 1:15am, they're thankfully open til 2 every day and have free WiFi and coffee, tea, wine & beer, and a full menu. Though almost no one else is here. Downtowners often complain that there aren't enough good late night cafe-esque options. But are we ready to actually utilize one?

8th Street is one massive construction zone, as 8th and Olive gears up to be a shiny new corner complete with apartments, Whole Foods and the Freehand Hotel. Just down the street sits one of our favorite remaining buildings, the Hotel Bristol, with its San Francisco-like Victorian-era facade. Thanks to the Bristol, the trees, and overall vacantness, the block possessed a sleepier quainter charm than the average central Downtown street. But construction is changing that, bringing noise and temporary traffic and new beginnings along 8th.

Saxophone virtuoso Kamasi Washington performed this past weekend at Grand Performances, the annual summer concert series in Bunker Hill's California Plaza. An unforgettable free live musical experience, Washington and his talent-heavy ensemble provided an auditory journey from the 1965 Watts Riots to the 1992 LA Riots to the continued brokenness and fresh hopes for social justice in 2015 (#sandrabland). Los Angeles played a powerful role at the show in uniting jazz and hip hop, in bridging decades of inequalities, and in activating outdoor space with movement and meaning.



Kamasi Washington and ensemble via Grand Performances

One last thing: we're now on [Facebook](#) & [Instagram](#). Cool, right?
It'll build more as we go along, but for now please follow us and feel free to
start spreading the word.

Many thanks, much more to come,

Ari Simon
Phoebe Unter
Ian Gabriel
and the GDT gang



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You got this email because you're interested in arts & culture in Downtown Los Angeles, want to know more about LA history & creative context, or because you know Ari Simon or Phoebe Unter or Ian Gabriel and they're hoping to share their new project with you.

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